

Appl. No. 09/522,296  
In re Kusumoto et al.  
Reply to Office Action of Mar. 23, 2004

**Amendments to the claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A golf club head comprising:  
a cast body constituted by a one-piece unitary homogenous hollow outer shell;  
said hollow outer shell defining a top portion, a sole portion, a heel wall and a toe  
portion;  
a shaft securing portion formed adjacent to said heel wall and extended from said  
top portion to said sole portion; and  
a first hollow portion formed between said shaft securing portion and said heel  
wall of said head body,  
wherein said shaft securing portion is formed homogeneously with said hollow  
outer shell to provide a one-piece, unitary, homogenous body, and  
wherein said sole portion of said hollow outer shell covers substantially a whole  
of a bottom of said hollow outer shell.

Claim 2 (original): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said hollow  
outer shell defines a face opening portion, a face portion is fixed to said face opening  
portion.

Claim 3 (original): A golf club head according to claim 2, wherein a second hollow portion is formed between said shaft securing portion and said face portion.

Claim 4 (original): A golf club head according to claim 2, wherein said face portion is formed by forging.

Claim 5 (original): A golf club head according to claim 2, wherein said face portion is formed by press working of a rolled plate member.

Claim 6 (original): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein a shaft securing hole penetrates said shaft securing portion in a region from said top portion to said sole portion.

Claim 7 (original): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said shaft securing hole *of* said shaft securing portion has a bottom portion.

Claim 8 (original): A golf club head according to claim 7, wherein said bottom portion is formed in a same surface of said sole portion of said head body.

Claim 9 (original): A golf club head according to claim 7, wherein said bottom portion *of* said shaft securing hole has substantially the same thickness as the thickness *of* said sole portion.

Claim 10 (original): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said hollow outer shell and said shaft securing portion are integrally molded with each other by precise casting.

Claim 11 (original): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said shaft securing portion is formed into a cylindrical shape from said top portion to said sole portion.

Claim 12 (original): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said first hollow portion is formed such that a clearance of 1 mm to 10 mm is defined between said shaft securing portion and said heel wall.

Claim 13 (original): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said heel wall has a thickness of 0.3 mm to 2 mm.

Claim 14 (original): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein a width of said first hollow portion adjacent to said sole portion is wider than a width of said first hollow portion adjacent to said top portion.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A golf club according to claim 1, wherein an edge is formed between said sole portion and said heel wall at a heel side near said shaft securing portion.

Claim 16 (original): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein a first upper end of the inside portion of said toe portion is higher than a second upper end of the inside portion of said heel

portion in a cross section passing through an axis of said shaft securing hole and along said face portion.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A golf club head ~~according to claim 1~~  
comprising:

a cast body constituted by a hollow outer shell;  
said hollow outer shell defining a top portion, a sole portion, a heel wall and a toe  
portion;

a shaft securing portion formed adjacent to said heel wall and extended from said  
top portion to said sole portion; and

a first hollow portion formed between said shaft securing portion and said heel  
wall of said head body,

wherein said shaft securing portion is formed homogeneously with said hollow  
outer shell to provide a one-piece, unitary, homogenous body,

wherein a support portion connects said shaft securing portion and said heel wall.

Claim 18 (original): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein a hosel portion is formed at said top portion of said head body by projecting said shaft securing portion from said top portion.

Claim 19 (previously presented): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein an upper end portion of said shaft securing portion is provided lower than a top of said top portion.

Claim 20 (original): A golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said head body is formed from  $\beta$ -type titanium alloy.

Claim 21 (original): A golf club head according to claim 2, wherein said head body is formed from  $\alpha\beta$ -type titanium alloy, and said face 3 portion is formed from  $\beta$ -type titanium alloy.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): A method for manufacturing a cast head body of a hollow golf club head including a shaft securing portion extending from a top portion to a sole portion and a hollow portion between said shaft securing portion and a heel wall, wherein a mold piece for forming said hollow portion is interposed between portions corresponding respectively to said shaft securing portion and said heel wall.

Claim 23 (withdrawn):

Claim 24 (withdrawn):

Claim 25 (withdrawn):

Claim 26 (withdrawn):

Claim 27 (withdrawn):

Claim 28 (currently amended): A golf club head comprising:  
a head body constituted by a hollow outer shell;  
a shaft securing portion, homogeneously formed by casting with a top portion of  
said hollow outer shell; and  
a sole portion fixed to said top portion;  
wherein a hollow portion is provided between said shaft securing portion and at  
least one of a heel portion and a face portion of said outer shell, and  
wherein said sole portion of said hollow outer shell covers substantially a whole  
of a bottom of said hollow outer shell.

Claim 29 (original): A golf club head according to claim 28, wherein a joining  
hole, for joining said shaft securing portion, is provided with ~~the other~~ one of said top  
portion and said sole portion.

Claim 30 (new): A golf club head comprising:  
a head body constituted by a hollow outer shell;

a shaft securing portion, homogeneously formed by casting with a top portion of said hollow outer shell; and

a sole portion fixed to said top portion;

wherein a hollow portion is provided between said shaft securing portion and at least one of a heel portion and a face portion of said outer shell, and

wherein said shaft securing portion includes a shaft securing hole extending into said top portion and said sole portion.